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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08:812,393	03.05.1997	LINDA A. SHERMAN	313332000100	2284

7590 12.30.2002

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EXAMINER

WILSON, MICHAEL C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1632

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2002

42

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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08/8/2393

EXAMINER

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

The Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Art Unit 1632.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission, filed on 10-28-02, paper number 41, has been entered.

The amendment filed 7-1-02, paper number 37, has been entered. Claims 6-21 have been canceled. Claims 1-5 remain pending and under consideration.

However, the amendment filed on 7-1-02, is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the amendment does not identify where support for the newly added limitation of fusing two nucleic acid molecules in claim 1 is to be found in the disclosure. As set forth in 37 CFR 1.121(b)(2)(iii):

Each amendment when originally submitted must be accompanied by an explanation of the support in the disclosure of the patent for the amendment along with any additional comments on page(s) separate from the page(s) containing the amendment.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Wilson who can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm at (703) 305-0120.

Questions of formal matters can be directed to the patent analyst, Dianiece Jacobs, who can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm at (703) 305-3388.

Questions of a general nature relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

If attempts to reach the examiner, patent analyst or Group receptionist are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Reynolds, can be reached on (703) 305-4051.

The official fax number for this Group is (703) 308-4242.

Michael C. Wilson



MICHAEL C. WILSON
PATENT EXAMINER